

Message Text

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16

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 COA-02 INT-08 L-03 EB-11 COME-00 AF-10

CIAE-00 INR-09 NSAE-00 RSC-01 RSR-01 AGR-20 /080 W

----- 008883

R 230913 MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6947

UNCLAS SEOUL 1794

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: EFIS, KS, AQ

SUBJECT: CLOSURE OF KOREAN FISHING BOAT REPAIR FACILITY
IN PAGO PAGO

1. IN A LETTER DATED FEBRUARY 20, GOVERNOR HAYDON OF AMERICAN SAMOA INFORMED KOREA DEEP SEA FISHERY ASSOCIATION THAT IT MUST CLOSE ITS MACHINE SHOP IN PAGO PAGO WITHIN SIXTY DAYS. HAYDON LETTER INDICATES TEMPORARY PERMISSION TO ESTABLISH SHOP, WHICH SERVICES KOREAN FISHING FLEET, WAS GIVEN FIVE OR SIX YEARS AGO WITH UNDERSTANDING IT WOULD BE CLOSED WHEN GOVERNMENT OF AMERICAN SAMOA'S MARINE RAILWAY DEVELOPED CAPABILITY OF PERFORMING REPAIR WORK. MARINE RAILWAY ALLEGEDLY NOW HAS SUCH CAPABILITY, HENCE GOVERNMENT'S ACTION.

2. ACCORDING ROK OFFICE OF FISHERIES, SHOP EMPLOYES FIVE KOREAN ENGINEERS AND REPRESENTS INVESTMENT OF 16 MILLION WON (\$40,000). ANNUAL REPAIR WORK VALUED AT \$110 - \$120,000 A YEARS. OFA OFFICAL (AHN) POINTS OUT TUNA ASSOCIATION OPERATES SIMILAR SHOP IN ABIDJAN AND SOON WILL OPEN ONE IN LAS PALMAS. HE ASSERTS MARINE RAILWAY UNABLE PERFORM NECESSARY WORK EXCEPT PERHAPS BY HIRING KOREANS RESIDENT IN SAMOA. AHN WONDERED WHETHER GOVERNOR HAD CONSIDERED SUBSTANTIAL ECONOMIC BENEFITS ACCRUING TO AMERICAN SAMOA AS A RESULT OF OPERATION KOREAN TUNA FLEET AND ASKED USG INTERVENTION TO OBTAIN REVERSAL THIS DECISION.

3. REGIONAL FISHERIES ATTACHE'S ADVICE WOULD BE APPRECIATED.
HABIB

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UNCLASSIFIED

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 02 APR 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SEOUL01794
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730346/abqcdxnb.tel
Line Count: 54
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kellerpr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21-Nov-2001 by elbezefj>; APPROVED <04-Feb-2002 by kellerpr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CLOSURE OF KOREAN FISHING BOAT REPAIR FACILITY IN PAGO PAGO
TAGS: EFIS, KS, AQ
To: TOKYO INFO STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005